

Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park



Hike Through History

As Confederate forces used Signal Knob as an observation point to plan their surprise attack on unsuspecting Union troops during the Battle of Cedar Creek in October of 1864, the mountain became an iconic feature in the battlefield landscape.

DATE: Friday, October 17, 2014

TIME: 10am - 2pm

DESCRIPTION: Hike at your own pace and join a National Park Service Ranger at the top of Signal Knob to learn more about how Civil War troops used this site to survey military movements and camps in the valley below. Signalers will also be on hand to demonstrate the techniques used to communicate observations from the mountain.

LOCATION: Hikers can take the Massanutten National Recreational Trail (orange blaze) from the Signal Knob trailhead in the Lee District of the George Washington National Forest.

DISTANCE: Approximately 11.5 miles round trip

DIRECTIONS: From Strasburg or Front Royal, travel on State Highway 55 to Waterlick, Virginia. From Waterlick, take State Highway 678 southwest. Travel along State Highway 678 for approximately 4 miles to the Signal Knob trailhead parking area in the George Washington National Forest.

SAFETY: This hike is considered strenuous and is steep and rocky. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, dress for the elements, and bring plenty of food and water.

This program has been developed in partnership with the following organizations:

